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April 7, 1999

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Application of Pascal AGIN, Sebastien BOCH
A METHOD FOR IMPROVING PERFORMANCES OF A MOBILE
RADIOCOMMUNICATION SYSTEM USING A POWER CONTROL ALGORITHM
Our Ref. Q053917

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is the application identified above including 13 sheets of the specification, claims, and 4 sheets of informal drawings. The executed Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment will be submitted at a later date. Also enclosed is the Preliminary Amendment.

**PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT BEFORE
CALCULATING THE FEE**

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	18	-	20	=		x	\$18.00	=	\$0.00
Independent claims	1	-	3	=		x	\$78.00	=	\$0.00
Base Fee									\$760.00

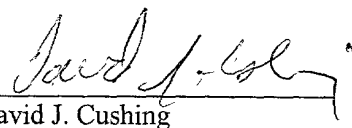
TOTAL FILING FEE

\$760.00

Please charge our Deposit Account 19-4880 for the statutory filing fee of \$760.00. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from March 16, 1999 based on European Application No. 99 400 649.2. The priority document will be filed at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
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Attorneys for Applicant

By: 
David J. Cushing
Registration No. 28,703

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Pascal AGIN, et al.

Attorney Docket Q53917

Appln. No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: April 07, 1999

Examiner:

For: A METHOD FOR IMPROVING PERFORMANCES OF A MOBILE
RADIOCOMMUNICATION SYSTEM SING A POWER CONTROL ALGORITHM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, insert the heading --Background of the Invention--.

Page 2, after line 17, insert the heading --Summary of the Invention--.

Page 4, after line 22, insert the heading --Brief Description of the Drawing--.

Page 5, before the first line, insert the heading --Detailed Description of the Invention--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 5, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 4" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 6, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 5" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 6" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 9, line 1, delete or "8".

Claim 10, line 1, delete "or 8".

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AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket Q53917

- Claim 11, line 1, delete "any of claims 7 to 10" and insert --claim 7--.
- Claim 12, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 11" and insert --claim 1--.
- Claim 13, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 11" and insert --claim 1--.
- Claim 14, line 1, delete "any of claims 1 to 11" and insert --claim 1--.
- Claim 15, line 2, delete "any of claims 1 to 14" and insert --claim 1--.
- Claim 16, line 2, delete "any of claims 1 to 14" and insert --claim 1--.
- Claim 17, line 2, delete "any of claims 1 to 14" and insert --claim 1--.
- Claim 18, line 2 delete "any of claims 1 to 14" and insert --claim --,

IN THE ABSTRACT:

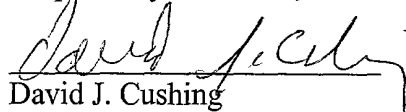
After the heading "Abstract" delete the title.

At the end of the Abstract delete "Fig. to be published: fig. 2".

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 7, 1999

A METHOD FOR IMPROVING PERFORMANCES OF A MOBILE RADIOCOMMUNICATION SYSTEM USING A POWER CONTROL ALGORITHM

The present invention is in a general way concerned with mobile radiocommunication systems.

5 The present invention is more particularly concerned with power control techniques used in such systems to improve performances (in terms of quality of service, of capacity,...etc.) despite the movements of users, i.e. despite continuous changes in their respective locations with respect to fixed infrastructures in such systems.

10 The present invention is in particular applicable to mobile radiocommunication systems of CDMA ("Code Division Multiple Access") type. CDMA is a multiple access technique which makes it possible for several users to be simultaneously active on a same frequency, using different spreading codes.

As is known, CDMA systems use two types of power control techniques, a so-called open-loop power control technique, and a so-called closed loop power control technique (also called hereinafter CLPC). These power control techniques may be recalled for example for the uplink transmission direction, i.e. from MS ("Mobile Station") to BTS ("Base Transceiver Station"). In the open-loop power control, a MS transmit power is controlled based on the power received by this MS from a BTS. In
15 the CLPC, a MS transmit power is controlled based on the transmission quality of the link between this MS and a BTS, as estimated at this BTS.

The transmission quality of a link between a MS and a BTS depends on the ratio of the received signal power and the interference power, also called SIR (Signal-to-Interference Ratio). When the SIR of a MS is low, or equivalently when the powers
20 of the other MSs are much higher than its power, its performances dramatically decrease. The CLPC algorithm enables to keep the SIR of each user as constant as possible.

The principle of the CLPC algorithm is that the BTS periodically estimates the SIR of the received signal from each MS, and compares this estimated SIR to a
30 target SIR (SIR_{orgel}). If the estimated SIR is lower than the target SIR, the BTS sends a command to the MS for the MS to increase its transmit power. Otherwise, the BTS sends a command to the MS for the MS to decrease its transmit power. The target SIR is chosen by the BTS as a function of the required quality of service.

Such a principle however requires that the environment is not changing too
35 fast, in particular that MSs speed is not too high.

WO 98/51026 teaches to adapt the power control step size of the CLPC algorithm, in particular as a function of MSs mobility requirements (the BTS in particular assigning a larger power control step size for MSs having higher mobility requirements).

5 This however does not solve the problem that in fast changing environments, such as when MSs speed is high, the CLPC algorithm cannot track the SIR variations, which results in degraded performances. Indeed in this case the speed of SIR variations is much higher than the repetition period of the algorithm, which may result in sending to a MS at a given instant t_i , a power control command obtained
10 from environment requirements at instant t_{i-1} , and which no longer corresponds to environment requirements at instant t_i . This problem could be solved by reducing the repetition period of the algorithm, but this would result in a signalling increase between BTS and MS, and therefore in a non efficient use of available radio resources.

15 Therefore there is a general need to adapt such power control techniques, in particular to the case of fast changing environments, avoiding such drawbacks. The present invention meets such a purpose.

The present invention is based on the idea that in certain cases it would in fact be more efficient not to activate the power control algorithm at all, than to
20 activate it (since it might be wrongly activated); this enables to improve the performances in a significant way.

An object of the present invention is a method for improving performances of a mobile radiocommunication system using a power control algorithm, said method essentially comprising:

- 25
- regularly estimating if a criterion is met as to whether said power control algorithm should better be de-activated,
 - de-activating said power control algorithm if said criterion is met.

According to another object of the invention, said de-activation includes performing said algorithm with a relatively higher repetition period.

30 According to another object of the invention, said de-activation includes performing another algorithm instead.

According to another object of the invention, said algorithm and said other algorithm are chosen in a group comprising closed-loop power control algorithms and open-loop power control algorithms.

35 According to another object of the invention, said method comprises:

Another object of the present invention is a mobile station (MS) for performing such a method.

According to another object of the invention, a mobile radiocommunication network entity comprises, for performing said method in said uplink transmission
5 direction:

- means for performing such a method,
- means for sending corresponding power control commands to a mobile station.

According to another object of the invention, a mobile station comprises, for
10 performing said method in said uplink transmission direction:

- means for receiving power control commands from a mobile radiocommunication network entity, according to such a method.

According to another object of the invention, a mobile station comprises, for performing said method in said downlink transmission direction:

- 15
- means for performing such a method,
 - means for sending corresponding power control commands to a mobile radiocommunication network entity.

According to another object of the invention, a mobile radiocommunication network entity, comprises, for performing said method in said downlink transmission
20 direction:

- means for receiving power control commands from a mobile station, according to such a method.

These and other objects of the present invention will become more apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings:

25

- figure 1 is a diagram intended to illustrate a CLPC algorithm, according to prior art,

- figure 2 is a diagram intended to illustrate a CLPC algorithm, modified so as to include a method according to the invention,

30

- figure 3 is a diagram intended to illustrate the type of means required in a mobile network entity and in a mobile station to perform a method according to the present invention, in the uplink transmission direction of a mobile radiocommunication system,

35

- figure 4 is a diagram intended to illustrate the type of means required in a mobile station and in a mobile network entity to perform a method according to the present invention, in the downlink transmission direction of a mobile radiocommunication system.

- At step 10, the BTS estimates the average received SIR during a period T_r

➤ If $SIR > SIR_{target}$, at step 12 the BTS sends a “down” power control command to the MS, for the MS to decrease its power by δ dB, where δ is a parameter of the algorithm,

This is periodically repeated, with a repetition period T , as illustrated by loop

14.

Let $t_i = iT$ be the time when the i -th power control command, $\varepsilon_i = \pm 1$ (+1="up", -1="down") is applied at the MS.

Thus, the transmit power of the MS at time t_i may be expressed as:

25 where C_0 is the initial transmit power of the MS at time t_0 , and $a_k=1$ if the power control was active at time t_k , and $a_k=0$ otherwise.

At step 20, the BTS estimates the average received SIR_i . This SIR is calculated and averaged on a period T just after the signal transmitted by the MS has been received,

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$SIR_i' = SIR_i + \delta \sum_{k=1}^i (\varepsilon_k' - a_k \varepsilon_k)$, where ε_i' is the power control command that would

have been sent to the MS at time t_i if the CLPC algorithm had always been active on the considered time-interval,

> At step 22, the BTS estimates ε_{i+1}' (in view of computing SIR_{i+1}' at

5 t_{i+1}):

- if $SIR_i' < SIR_{target}$, $\varepsilon_{i+1}' = 1$

- if $SIR_i' > SIR_{target}$, $\varepsilon_{i+1}' = -1$

> At step 23, the BTS estimates the variance $(\sigma_{PC})_i^2$ of the SIR that would have been obtained if power control had always been active on the considered

10 time-interval. This variance may be computed as:

$$(\sigma_{PC})_i^2 = (1-c)(\sigma_{PC})_{i-1}^2 + c(SIR_i' - SIR_{target})^2$$

where c is a real parameter between 0 and 1 (usually close to 0).

> At step 24, the BTS estimates the variance $(\sigma_{NO_PC})_i^2$ of the SIR that would have been obtained if power control had never been active on the considered

15 time-interval. This variance may be computed as:

$$(\sigma_{NO_PC})_i^2 = (1-c)(\sigma_{NO_PC})_{i-1}^2 + c\left(SIR_i - \delta \sum_{l=1}^i a_l \varepsilon_l - SIR_{target}\right)^2$$

> At step 25, the BTS decides if the power control may be activated or de-activated:

- ◆ If the power control is currently active (as checked at step 26):
- 20 • If $\sigma_{PC} > \sigma_{NO_PC} + \alpha$ (as checked at step 27) a decision is made (at step 28) to de-activate power control,
- Otherwise, a decision is made (at step 29) to keep power control active,
- ◆ If the power control is currently inactive (as checked at step 26):
- 25 • If $\sigma_{PC} < \sigma_{NO_PC} - \beta$ (as checked at step 30) a decision is made (at step 31) to activate power control,
- Otherwise, a decision is made (at step 32) to keep power control inactive.

α and β are two positive parameters of this algorithm. In practice, they are close to 0 but usually different from 0 in order to avoid activating and de-activating the CLPC algorithm too frequently.

> At step 33, the BTS compares SIR_i to SIR_{target} :

♦ If $SIR_i > SIR_{target}$, the BTS provides at step 34 a "down" power control command for the MS (this command may or not be sent to the MS, as indicated hereinafter)

♦ If $SIR_i < SIR_{target}$, the BTS provides at step 35 an "up" power control command for the MS (this command may or not be sent to the MS, as indicated hereinafter).

Such an "up" or "down" power control command (provided at step 34 or 35) is combined at step 36 with the result of the decision as to activation or de-activation of the algorithm (provided at step 28, 29, 31, or 32), so as to generate a resulting power control command to be sent to the MS. An "up" or "down" power control command may be sent to the MS, if the power control is active, or activated; if the power control is inactive or de-activated, the BTS may either send such an "up" or "down" power control command to the MS, together with an indication that it has not to be taken into account, or not send any power control command at all to the MS (since it does not need it).

Besides, the above disclosed algorithm is periodically repeated, as illustrated by loop 37.

Thus, the above disclosed algorithm comprises the steps of:

- regularly estimating if a criterion is met as to whether said power control algorithm should better be de-activated, when activated, or activated, when de-activated (steps 20-24, 26, 27, 30)

- activating, or de-activating, said power control algorithm if said criterion is met (steps 28, 29, 31, 32).

In the example disclosed, said estimation as to whether said criterion is met includes:

- an estimation (step 23) of a first deviation value $(\sigma_{PC})_i^2$ which would have been obtained if said power control algorithm had always been activated, during a given time-interval (beginning at t_{k-1} and ending at t_k) on which said deviation value is estimated,

- an estimation (step 24) of a second deviation value $(\sigma_{NO-PC})_i^2$ which would have been obtained if said power control algorithm had never been activated, during said given time-interval on which said deviation value is estimated,

- a choice (step 25) between activation and de-activation of said algorithm depending on which of said first and second deviation values is the lowest.

It is to be noted that said second deviation value $(\sigma_{NO-PC})_i^2$ could be replaced by a constant, which might be environment-dependant.

Besides, when the CLPC algorithm is de-activated, another algorithm that shows some better performances (in particular at high MSs speed) could be used instead, such as an in particular an open loop power control. Another possibility would be to let the CLPC algorithm be active but with a larger repetition period T. It is to be understood that the notion of "de-activation" used in this application includes such various possibilities.

Besides, other examples of performing said estimation as to whether said criterion is met could be possible. For instance, the variance σ_i^2 of the estimated signal-to-interference ratio SIR_i could be compared to a given threshold (which might be environment-dependant), and depending on the result of this comparison it could be decided whether or not the algorithm should be de-activated.

Besides, in the example disclosed, said estimated transmission quality is represented by an estimated signal-to-interference ratio. Other examples could be possible; in particular said estimated transmission quality could be represented by a received signal power.

Besides, in the example disclosed, said estimated deviation value is represented by the variance of the estimated transmission quality; any estimator other than the variance could also be used.

The example disclosed is particularly advantageous in that it allows a recursive implementation of steps 20-25 of the algorithm, as appears from the above description of this algorithm, but other examples could also be possible.

Besides, a number of other variants could be envisaged from the above description of the algorithm.

As an example, said considered time-interval may not be referred to the time origin t_0 , but to the current time t_i minus some interval, e.g. t_i to t_{i-N} , where N is a parameter of this algorithm.

In the latter case, the transmit power of the MS at time t_i would be expressed as: $C_i = C_{i-N} + \delta \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_{i-k} \varepsilon_{i-k}$,

and the SIR that would have been observed if the power control had always been active on the considered interval as: $SIR_i' = SIR_i + \delta \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\varepsilon_{i-k} - a_{i-k} \varepsilon_{i-k})$.

As another example, in the above disclosed algorithm, when receiving a power control command $\varepsilon_i = \pm 1$, the MS computes its new power as $C_{i+1} = C_i + \varepsilon_i \delta$ when power control is active.

The proposed algorithm can be generalized to any function $C_{i+1} = f_i(C_i, \varepsilon_i)$ where f_i are some functions that can also depend from any previous power C_i and power control command ε_i , as well as any other parameter.

For instance, one might have a different power step for the "up" and "down"

5 power control command, so that:

- $C_{i+1} = C_i + \delta_{up}$ if the power is increased,
- $C_{i+1} = C_i - \delta_{down}$ if the power is decreased.

In a general way, if g_i is the function such as $g_i(C_i) = C_i$ if $a_i=0$ or $g_i(C_i)=f_i(C_i, \varepsilon_i)$ if $a_i=1$, and f'_i is the function such as $f'_i(C_i)=f_i(C_i, \varepsilon'_i)$, the expression of

10 the variance $(\sigma_{NO_PC})_i^2$ becomes:

$$(\sigma_{NO_PC})_i^2 = (1-c)(\sigma_{NO_PC})_{i-1}^2 + c((g_i \circ g_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ g_1)^{-1}(SIR_i) - SIR_{target})^2$$

and the expression of SIR'_i becomes:

$$SIR'_i = f'_i \circ f'_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ f'_1 \circ (g_i \circ g_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ g_1)^{-1}(SIR_i)$$

where the symbol "o" is used to indicate a composition function, and $^{-1}$ is

15 used to indicate an inverse function.

The present invention also has for its object an entity for a mobile radiocommunication network (such as in particular BTS), as well as a mobile station (MS), for carrying out such a method.

As already noted, the present invention may be used for power control in the
20 uplink transmission direction (from MS to BTS) as well as in the downlink transmission direction (from BTS to MS).

In the uplink direction:

- a mobile radiocommunication network entity, such as illustrated at 40 in figure 3, essentially comprises, further to other classical means (not mentioned here and which may be classical):
25
 - means 41 for performing such a method, from signals noted S1 received from a mobile station
 - means 42 for sending corresponding power control commands noted C1 to a mobile station,
- a mobile station, such as illustrated at 43 on figure 3, essentially comprises, further to other classical means (not mentioned here and which may be classical):
30
 - means 44 for receiving power control commands C1 from a mobile radiocommunication network entity, provided according to such a method .
35

In the downlink direction:

- a mobile station, such as illustrated at 45 on figure 4, essentially comprises, further to other classical means (not mentioned here and which may be classical):

5

- means 46 for performing such a method, from signals noted S2 received from a mobile network entity,
- means 47 for sending corresponding power control commands noted C2 to a mobile network entity,

10

- a mobile radiocommunication network entity, such as illustrated at 48 on figure 4, essentially comprises, further to other classical means (not mentioned here and which may be classical):

- means 49 for receiving power control commands C2 from a mobile station, provided according to such a method .

Means such as 41 or 46 do not need to be more fully disclosed than as been made above by their function, for a person skilled in the art. Means such as
 15 42, 44, 47, 49, may operate according to any known type of signalling procedures, or protocols, in such type of systems, and therefore do not either need to be more fully disclosed than has been made above, by their function.

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CLAIMS

1. A method for improving performances of a mobile radiocommunication system using a power control algorithm, said method comprising:
 - regularly estimating (20-24, 27) if a criterion is met as to whether said power control algorithm should better be de-activated,
 - de-activating (28) said power control algorithm if said criterion is met.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said de-activation includes performing said algorithm with a relatively higher repetition period.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said de-activation includes performing a different algorithm instead.
4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said algorithm and said other algorithm are chosen in a group comprising closed-loop power control algorithms and open-loop power control algorithms.
- 5 A method according to any of claims 1 to 4, comprising:
 - regularly estimating (20-24, 26, 27, 30) if a criterion is met as to whether said power control algorithm should better be de-activated, when activated, or activated, when de-activated,
 - de-activating (28) , or activating (31), said power control algorithm if the corresponding criterion is met.
- 6 A method according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein provision is made not to de-activate, or activate, said algorithm too frequently.
7. A method according to any of claims 1 to 6, wherein said estimation as to whether said criterion is met is based on an estimation of a deviation value, representative of a deviation between an estimated transmission quality and a target transmission quality.
8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said estimation as to whether said criterion is met includes:
 - an estimation (23) of a first deviation value, which would have been obtained if said power control algorithm had always been activated, on a given time-interval on which said deviation value is estimated,
 - an estimation (24) of a second deviation value, which would have been obtained if said power control algorithm had never been activated, on said given time-interval on which said deviation value is estimated,
 - a choice (25) between activation and de-activation of said algorithm depending on which of said first and second deviation values is the lowest.

9. A method according to claim 7 or 8, wherein said estimated transmission quality is represented by an estimated signal-to-interference ratio.

10. A method according to claim 7 or 8, wherein said estimated transmission quality is represented by a received signal power.

5 11. A method according to any of claims 7 to 10, wherein said estimated deviation value is represented by the variance of said estimated transmission quality.

12. A method according to any of claims 1 to 11, wherein said method is performed in the uplink transmission direction of said mobile radiocommunication system.

10 13. A method according to any of claims 1 to 11, wherein said method is performed in the downlink transmission direction of said mobile radiocommunication system.

14. A method according to any of claims 1 to 13, wherein said mobile radiocommunication system is of CDMA type.

15 15. A mobile radiocommunication network entity (40), comprising, for performing a method according to any of claims 1 to 14, in the uplink transmission direction of a mobile radiocommunication system:

- means (41) for performing said method,
- means (42) for sending corresponding power control commands (C1) to a

20 mobile station (43).

16. A mobile station (43), comprising, for performing a method according to any of claims 1 to 14, in the uplink transmission direction of a mobile radiocommunication system:

- means (44) for receiving power control commands (C1) from a mobile radiocommunication network entity (40), according to said method.

17. A mobile station (45), comprising, for performing a method according to any of claims 1 to 14, in the downlink transmission direction of a mobile radiocommunication system:

- means (46) for performing said method,
 - means (47) for sending corresponding power control commands (C2) to a
- 30 mobile radiocommunication network entity (48).

18. A mobile radiocommunication network entity (48), comprising, for performing a method according to any of claims 1 to 14, in the downlink transmission direction of a mobile radiocommunication system:

- means (49) for receiving power control commands (C2) from a mobile station, according to said method.
- 35

ABSTRACT

A METHOD FOR IMPROVING PERFORMANCES OF A MOBILE RADIOCOMMUNICATION SYSTEM USING A POWER CONTROL ALGORITHM

A method for improving performances of a mobile radiocommunication system using a power control algorithm, said method essentially comprising:

- regularly estimating (20- 24, 27) if a criterion is met as to whether said power control algorithm should better be de-activated,
- de-activating (28) said power control algorithm if said criterion is met.

Fig. to be published : fig.2

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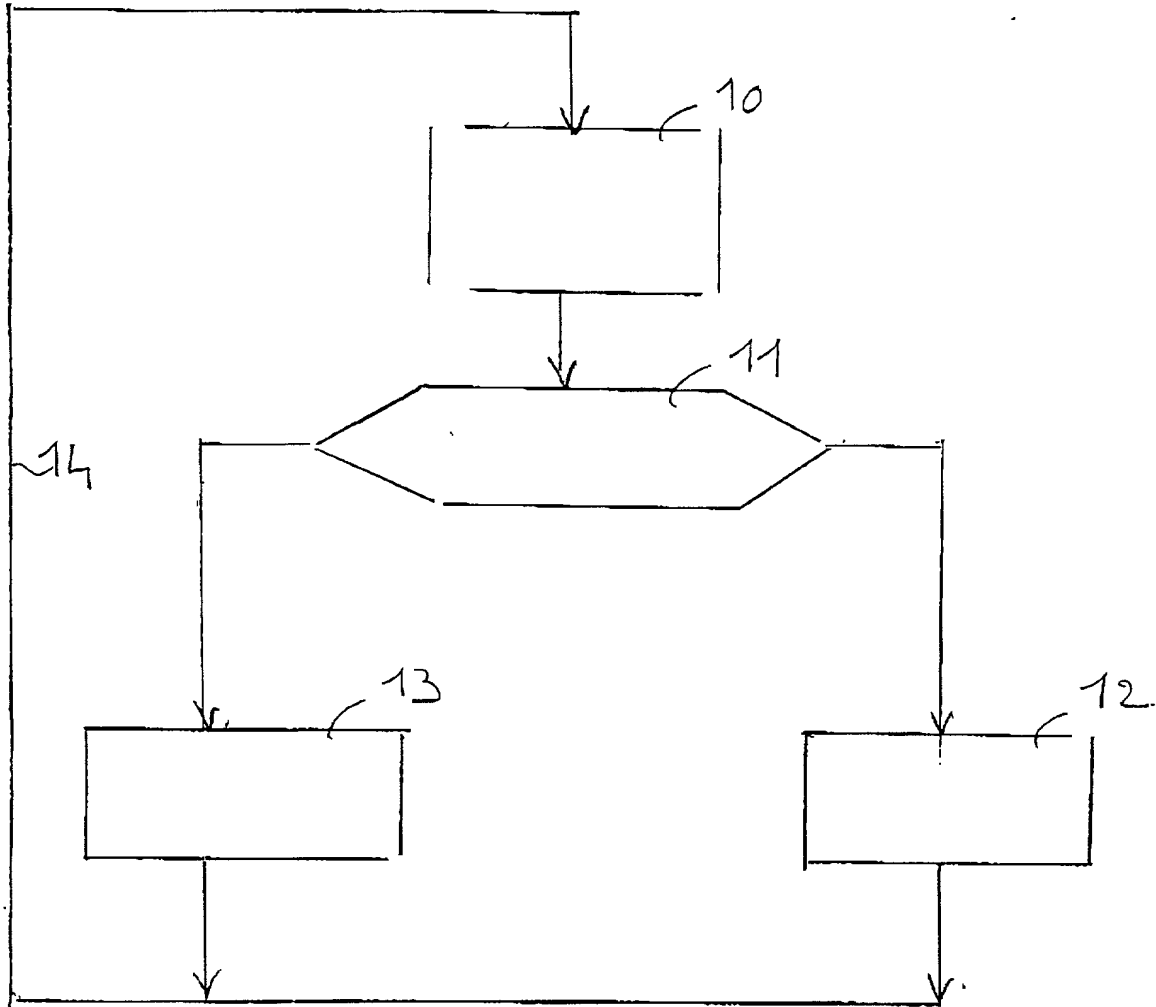


Fig. 1

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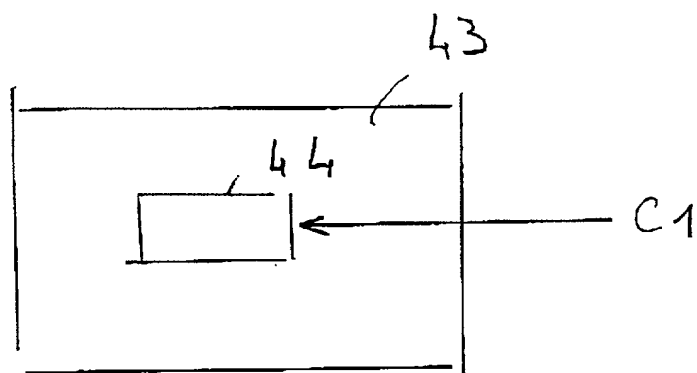
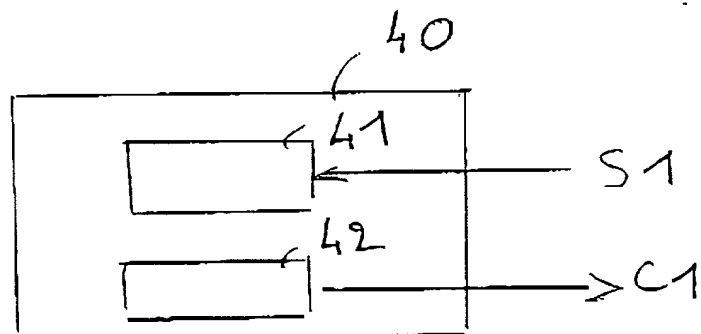


Fig. 3

General information	
Study design	Retrospective
Study period	1990-1999
Study location	USA
Study population	All patients with a diagnosis of schizophrenia who were treated with antipsychotic medication in the USA
Study objectives	To determine the prevalence of schizophrenia in the USA
Study limitations	Retrospective design, potential for bias, limited data on clinical course
Study strengths	Large sample size, comprehensive data on clinical course
Study results	The prevalence of schizophrenia in the USA is approximately 1%.
Study conclusions	There is a high prevalence of schizophrenia in the USA, and it is a chronic condition.
Study implications	There is a need for further research into the causes and treatment of schizophrenia.
Study funding	None
Study ethics	Approved by the local research ethics committee
Study registration	Not applicable
Study publication	Published in the Journal of Clinical Psychiatry
Study citation	Journal of Clinical Psychiatry, 2000; 61: 10-15

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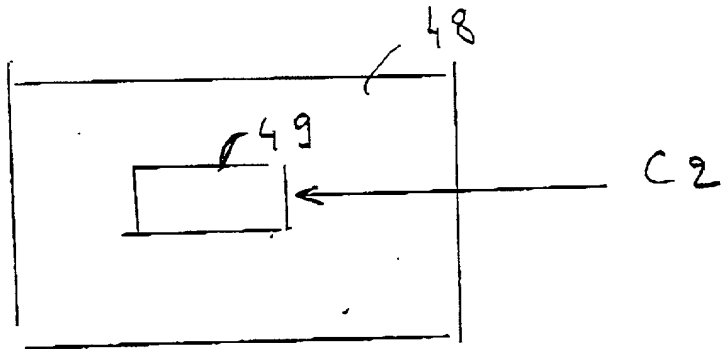
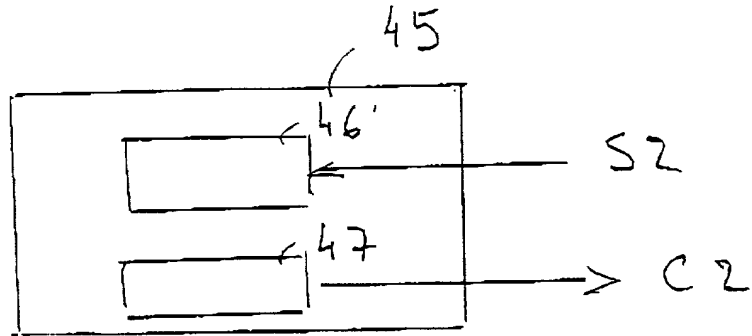


Fig. 4

09287264, 040799